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# HEATHER AND SHILOH PARTICIPATE IN LIBRARY JAM BY VISITING THE GSU LIBRARY DECEMBER 1, 2016



GSU student Lauren Manuel interacts with Shiloh.

Heather and Shiloh, two beautiful Golden Retrievers, traveled from the Western Suburbs of Chicago to meet students, faculty and staff during Library Jam at the GSU Library on December 1, 2016. They are members of the Pet Partners of Greater Chicago team of service dogs. "There's nothing better than being with your dog and making people happy," said Paulette Solinski, Pet Partners of Greater Chicago.

Over one hundred people came to the balcony between 10:30AM and 12:30PM to enjoy being with the dogs and to take a break from finals, papers and work. Lauren Manuel, a student majoring in Early Childhood Education, made a special trip because she is interested in the impact of therapy dogs. "I think that seeing a loving animal can bring up one's spirits and is a great way to bring people together," she offered.



Monica Holden enjoys taking a break with Shiloh.

Monica Holden, who works in the Executive Offices, stopped in to take a moment to enjoy Heather and Shiloh too. "This is a good stress relief for our students who are getting ready for finals. Sometimes, just to have a dog to love you is all that you need because they don't judge," she said.

"We think of the library as the living room of the Governors State University," said Lydia Morrow Ruetten, Dean of the GSU Library. "There is always pressure as students are getting ready for final exams, papers and projects. Library Jam is a way that we can offer students academic support through tutors along with a way to relax and take a break with events such as having Heather and Shiloh come to visit," she said.

**Questions?????**

**Contact [asarkisian@govst.edu](mailto:asarkisian@govst.edu)**

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